



News from the Nest



Monday, September 13, 2021

Weyt-kp parents, guardians, and caregivers,

Well we made it through the first week of the 2021-2022 school year, with smiles on our faces and only a few cuts and bruises to speak of. We settled into classes Thursday morning, after spending all of Wednesday reviewing school-wide expectations in all areas of the school and we are all off and running on our learning adventure this year. If they haven't already, I have no doubt that your child/ren's teacher will be reaching out soon to introduce themselves and share with you what their expectations are this year.

One thing that I would ask you to keep in mind when you are communicating with your child/ren's teacher is that they are not often at their e-mail during the day, as they are actively teaching their students. If you send a message to him or her, please allow for at least 24 hours for their response. If it is an emergency or time sensitive matter, please phone the school to speak to him or her.

We are looking forward to an exciting year of learning, with a special focus on our School Learning Plan Goals:

1. Students will show growth in their ability to recognize the appearance of and the monetary value of currency, solve real-world problems involving money, and identify their needs and wants with respect to spending and saving.
2. Students will show growth in their organization, sentence structure, vocabulary and conventions in informational texts.
3. Students will show growth in their self-confidence by taking risks in their learning.

Health and Safety

This is just a reminder that you need to continue assessing your child/ren daily for symptoms of illness before sending them to school. If your child/ren have any of the following symptoms, he/she/they must stay home and are not to enter the school:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Difficulty breathing
- Diarrhea
- Nausea and/or vomiting
- Extreme fatigue or tiredness
- Body aches
- Loss of appetite
- Headache
- Loss of sense of smell or taste

***If your child/ren experience symptoms consistent with previously diagnosed conditions, he/she/they may continue to attend when they are experiencing these symptoms as normal. If



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he/she/they experience any new or unexplained symptoms, you should seek assessment by a health care provider.

With regards to masks, students in Grades 4-7 and all adults are required to wear masks in all areas indoors. If for some reason your child cannot wear a mask, please connect with your child/ren's teacher to let them know. Students in Grades K-3 are encouraged to wear a mask, but it is not mandatory.



Road Construction Project



I was contacted by the City of Kamloops last week to let us know that they will be beginning some road work on Summit Drive, starting at the Church and travelling North towards Sa-Hali Secondary. They are making way for a multi-use trail, which requires them to dig up the sidewalk on the opposite side of the street. I was told that they do not plan on beginning this road work prior to 9am, which shouldn't impact our morning drop off, but that they could not be as certain about the afternoon pickup time. I was informed that at some point the traffic will be limited to one lane, but I have no idea as to when this might happen. My suggestion to you would be to try to avoid this portion of your commute all together. If you are coming from below the school, if it is possible for you to redirect your route to access the school by coming down Summit and turning right into our parking lot, I would recommend it. Please see the attached document for more information about the project, as well as a phone number and person to contact if you have any questions about it.

Safe Arrival

A big thank you to the many of you who are using the **SchoolMessenger Safe Arrival app** or phone number 1-844-350-2647 to report your child/ren's absences. For those of you who are new to the school, it is an app that can be downloaded to your cellphone and is easy to use. SD73 is asking that if you are reporting your child's absence as illness, to please designate the appropriate type of illness that applies to your child. Interior Health needs to keep track of any abnormalities in our attendance data, in the case that there a health concern that our community needs to know about it. If those options don't appear on the app, refresh the app on your phone.



Terry Fox Run

We were originally scheduled to hold our Terry Fox run this Friday, September 17; however, we decided to postpone it one week in order to allow for "Off School Grounds" permission slips that were sent home in the forms package to come back to school. Therefore, our Terry Fox run will take place on Friday September 24th at various times, depending on your child/ren's teacher, as provincial guidelines do not allow for outside gatherings larger than 100 people.



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We will be raising money for the Terry Fox Foundation for Cancer Research. As it was Terry's dream to raise \$1.00 for each Canadian 41 years ago, we have made it our school goal to raise \$2.00 for each student in the school. Our school currently has 375 students, making it our school goal to raise \$750.00. In order to make things interesting, if we reach our goal of \$750.00, one lucky student will get the opportunity to throw a pie in Mme Mabee's face during our virtual assembly. For each \$2.00 that a student brings in, they will get their name in the draw. We will draw the winner the morning of Friday September 24th prior to our assembly.



September 30 and Orange Shirt Day



You may or may not be aware that September 30th has been designated as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, and as such, the school will be closed. This statutory holiday was established to fulfil the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Call to Action #80 and to honour the Survivors of Residential Schools, their families and their communities. It also serves to ensure that the public commemorates the history and legacy of residential schools.

As September 30th is typically Orange Shirt Day, and school will not be in session, we will hold our **Orange Shirt Day on Wednesday September 29th**. There is not enough time for the school to do an Orange Shirt Day t-shirt order; however, there are many options out there of which families can take advantage.

School Supplies, Forms Package, and School Cash Online

Last week your child came home with a package which included a school supplies form, permission slips and a verification form. Please read the permission slips carefully, as each one grants access for different things. Of particular importance is the media release. As a school we do not post photographs on social media, but we do sometimes use student photos in presentations of learning (i.e. like our Christmas Concert, Assemblies, etc.) within the school district. Please read these forms carefully and express clearly to your child/ren's teacher your boundaries for photographs.



In addition, read carefully and correct any information on the verification form that was sent home in this package. The office uses this form to update your contact information in our system.

School Cash Online will be live on Wednesday September 15th. At this time, you will be permitted to choose your child/ren's school and pay for their school supplies. Please read carefully, as not all classes opted for an agenda this year. In addition, we will be using this system to pay for field trips and anything else that requires payment to the school (ie. school clothing orders). The system allows for safer payments and more accurate and efficient record keeping.



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Morning Announcements

Each morning after the 8:40 bell, we have morning announcements, and each day there is a different theme.

Mondays we begin announcements with the Secwepmec Welcome Song, and we close them with O'Canada. We also introduce the word of the week. The word of the week is repeated each morning and used in a sentence. I will be asking for students to create their own sentences for the word of the week so that they can share them on the announcements. Something that you can do to help them practice this new vocabulary word is to ask your child what the word of the week is and get them to make a sentence with it.

Tuesdays is when we release our math word problems of the week. There is a variety of levels, and students can choose to answer the problem that is at their level. We will draw a winner from the correct answers Tuesday mornings and they will get their picture posted on the "Genius of the Week" bulletin board outside of the office.

Wednesdays' focus is on a quote about resiliency.

Thursdays' focus is on gratitude. I will be asking students to share for what they are grateful on the announcements. This might be a good conversation to have around the dinner table.

Fridays we have a Friday Funny and I tell a joke in both French and English. I will be reaching out to students for their input in the coming weeks, so if your child/ren have some school-friendly funny jokes up their sleeve, and they can be translated into French, have them write them on a piece of paper with their name and they may get the opportunity to read their joke on the announcements.

Raise a Reader

Wednesday, September 22nd is Raise a Reader Day and we will be collecting donations for Literacy Initiatives here in Kamloops that day in our "Loonies for Literacy" campaign. If you would like to participate, please feel free to send a loonie with your child.

PAC Hot Lunch

Our PAC is once again organizing Hot Lunch delivery every Thursday beginning in October. They are using HotLunch.net to do all of the orders and payment. Please see the attached form for more information about how to access this service. You will have to sign up once again this year, even if you had an account last year. You must have your order and payment into the system by **September 23, 2021, NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**

PAC Meeting and PAC FB page

Our school Parent Advisory Committee meets monthly to discuss initiative, issues and plans for fundraising events for our school. They also organize and distribute Hot Lunches each Thursday, which is a big hit for both staff and students alike. Last year the PAC paid for all of the bussing for



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field trips, and a new set of Chromebooks for our school, and they give each classroom funds to spend on incidentals such as fun art projects, stickers, and other supplies. All parents are welcome to attend all meetings.

Our school's first PAC meeting will take place September 23rd at 6:30pm. Because of the everchanging nature of the Public Health Guidelines, they have decided to hold this meeting virtually via Zoom. Meeting invitation information will come out closer to the date.

Our PAC also has a [Facebook page](#) (South Sa-Hali Elementary PAC-Ecole South Sa-Hali PAC) that you might want to consider joining. In order to be granted access, you will need to answer the questions posted.

Important Upcoming Dates

If you subscribe to the calendar on our [school website](#), updates to the calendar will be sent directly to your phone. You may also opt for a weekly e-mail as to the week's upcoming events.

September 13-17 Friday, Sept. 24th	Toonie for Terry Week Terry Fox Run @ various times in the morning depending on the class (Please note the change in date)
Thursday, Sept. 22 nd	Raise-a-Reader Day (Loonie for Literacy)
Monday, Sept. 27 th	Professional Development Day (School is not in session for students)
Sept 27 th – 30 th	Truth and Reconciliation Week
Wednesday, Sept. 29 th	Orange Shirt Day
Thursday, Sept. 30 th	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – <u>School is closed.</u>
Monday, Oct. 4 th	School Photo Day
Monday, Oct. 11 th	Thanksgiving (School Closed)
Thursday, Oct. 14 th	Early Dismissal @ 12:51 for parent-teacher interviews
Tuesday, Oct. 19 th	Come Read with Me (for Grade 1 parents)
Thursday, Oct. 22 nd	Professional Development Day (School is not in session for students)

As always, if you have any questions or have any concerns that you would like to discuss, please don't hesitate to call the office. I can't wait to see you and your kiddos next week!

Sincerely,

Susie Mabee